

Applicant: Douglas C. Ball et al.
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REMARKS

Claims 1-53 are pending in the present application upon entry of this amendment.

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during an interview conducted on June 8, 2004, in which the independent claims and the cited art were discussed. Based on the interview, the present amendment is believed to overcome the double-patenting rejection and the rejection citing Dammermann 6,471,294.

Specifically, claims 1-36 were rejected for double-patenting over Peterson 6,698,833. Attached is a Terminal Disclaimer overcoming this rejection.

Claims 3, 8-10, 13, 14, 18-23, 27-28, 30, 34, and 36 were objected to, but were indicated to be allowable if properly rewritten. These claims have been rewritten in independent form. Therefore, these claims are believed to be allowable based on the recent Office Action.

Claims 1, 17, 26, and 35 were rejected over Dammermann '294. Claims 1, 17, 26, and 35 are clarified to recite the sheet as being a flexible polymeric sheet made from a solid sheet of non-textile material, which the Examiner indicated he would favorably consider. Claims 2, 4-7, 11-12, 15-16, 24-25, 29, 31-33, and 36-47 are dependent on one of the claims 1, 17, 26, and 35 and therefore are also allowable. Also, new claims 50-53 are presented. Independent claim 50 defines, among other things, a back upright having a vertically-elongated centrally-located spine component for supporting a flexible polymeric sheet. This is not found in the cited prior art. Claims 51-53 are dependent on claim 50. Accordingly, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.


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Consideration on the merits is requested, and a Notice of Allowability earnestly solicited for all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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